



The **HOTLINE**

Official Newsletter for the
Heart O' Texas Amateur Radio Club
Waco, Texas

Volume XLIII, Number 6

June 2018

Let's Celebrate: Field Day 2018 Is FINISHED!

*Clint Anderson, AE5CA
HOTARC Past President*

It is now 10:30 pm Field Day (FD) Sunday. I have emptied my truck of all the FD stuff, and found a temporary home for everything. I had a nap and shower and am currently working on something to eat before I go to bed.

I would like to thank everyone who helped out with FD. For the very poor daytime band conditions, I think we did very well. Here are a few highlights:

- The trailer looked absolutely fantastic!
- Best GOTA performance I can remember.
- Drew completed a satellite QSO. Woo-hoo!
- Great food, and even better company.
- I don't have all the numbers available right now, but I will have some to share at the Club meeting. Come and celebrate with us!



Again, thanks again for all the help that made a great HOTARC FD!

You are invited to a celebratory cookout at the W5NCD Workshop preceding this month's meeting! Come and join us for FREE* grilled burgers and dogs at 6 PM, this Thursday June 28!!

*while supplies last



From the President

I write this just a few days before Field Day. I look forward to seeing what our members have been furiously working on this year. The trailer committee has been working very hard to get the communications trailer ready for use. They have diligently checked all the antennas, cables, and radios to make sure we do not find any unexpected issues this year.

The Broadband Ham Mesh will be setup. This is a great demonstration of just a few things that the BBHM system is capable of doing. There are IP based cameras and telephones linking all of the radio stations together. The logging computers will be networked together to allow others to see what each station is doing and to ensure that stations do not duplicate contacts.

Each of you are invited to a hamburger / hotdog dinner Saturday night. This is a great time to discuss our favorite hobby. I hope to see each of you there.

Lynn KC5DZU
HOTARC President



For the Record

HOTARC Meeting of Members May 24, 2018

President Lynn Gustafson, KD5DZU called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the W5NCD Workshop Meeting Room.

Bill Feltenberger, KD5UEW opened the meeting with a prayer.

15 members were present. One visitor was also present: John Clarke, KE5JJT of Waco.

Last Meeting Minutes. A motion to accept the Minutes of the April 26, 2018 as published in the HOTLINE was made by Keith Adams, KG5AWC; seconded by Jeb Leutwyler, KG5WHS and unanimously approved.

Treasurer's report. Bill Feltenberger, KD5UEW moved to accept the Treasurer's report; seconded by Arthur Brown, K5RMI and was approved by the membership.

Committee Reports:

- **ARES:** Lynn Gustafson, KD5DZU indicated that severe weather will begin soon. If you are interested in being a member of ARES and participate in EOC support activities, contact Ed at KC5KNI@arrl.net or 254-722-4578.
- **Trailer Committee:** Keith Adams, KE5AWC reported trailer is ready and was available at this meeting for viewing. Keith wants the trailer to go through some operational testing the following Saturday to assess readiness and identify any further needed repairs.
- **Repeater Committee:** Lynn Gustafson, KD5DZU reported that a recent thunderstorm took out the 147.24 MHz system which is still down; but all others are functioning satisfactorily.
- **Web Committee:** John Chamberlain, AC5JC reported web site is working satisfactorily.
- **ATV:** David Bush, KC5UOZ reported that system will be set up for a few hours at Field Day.
- **Education Committee:** Lynn Gustafson, KD5DZU reported that Clint Anderson, AE5CA is planning a Tech Class this fall. There was some interest in having a General Class after Field Day sometime.
- **Public Relations:** Marie Adams, KG5NJK sent out an email with an order form for T-shirts for members to wear at Field Day. Members should fill out form to order T-Shirts.
- **Broadband Hamnet:** No report.
- **Special Events:** Field Day is the next club event.

The Treasurer Reports...

Heart O' Texas Amateur Radio Club Treasurer's Report, May 2018

Starting Balance		\$11,131.53
Income		
Dues	\$ 30.00	
Wild West Century donation	1,000.00	
Donation	15.87	
Interest	0.09	
Total Income		\$1,045.96
Expenses		
Liability Insurance	(300.00)	
HOTARC Trailer wrap	(2,400.00)	
Trailer repair supplies	(522.73)	
PayPal	(0.96)	
Total Expenses		(\$3,223.69)
Ending Balance		\$8,953.80
Uncleared activity:		
(none)		
Amount in acct. as of	6/3/2018	\$8,953.80
Includes Flower Fund:	\$178.10	
Submitted by		
Norris Martin, KB5SLI		
HOTARC Treasurer		

Old Business

- **Field Day:** Lynn Gustafson, KD5DZU reported that Field Day on track and that Clint Anderson, AE5CA requested some ideas for Field Day that may be educational for the attendees. Bill Feltenberger, KD5UEW moved to allocate \$400 for Field Day expenses. Keith Adams, KE5AWC seconded the motion; and, unanimously approved. More discussion about plans for executing Field Day activities continued for a while.

New Business

- (none)

Meeting Adjournment

- Ed Hynan, KC5KNI moved for adjournment. President Lynn Gustafson, KD5DZU adjourned the meeting at 8:50 pm.

Submitted by
Dan Hapenny, AG5HF
Secretary

Communication in an Emergency

by Ed Hynan, KC5KNI
McLennan County Emergency Coordinator

Communication during a declared communications emergency is very different from routine day-to-day amateur communications. A communications emergency exists when a critical communications failure puts the public at risk. It could be a storm that knocks down telephone lines or radio towers, a massive increase in the use of a specific communications system that causes it to become overloaded, or the failure of a key component in a system that has widespread consequences. Whatever the reason, amateur radio operators are routinely called in to assist.

We fit into the equation because we are considered communications experts by the agencies we are asked to support. We have the skills, equipment, and frequencies to create emergency communications networks under emergency conditions. We are licensed and pre-authorized for both national and international communications. We have the ability to rapidly enlarge the communications capacity to meet the growing needs of an emergency situation. The skills that we would need are practiced daily, skills used in everyday amateur communications.

As important as what you are, is what you are not. There are limits to your responsibilities as an emergency communicator, and you need to know what they are. You are not a “first responder”—no need for flashing lights and sirens. You really have no authority. The only decision that you can make is whether to participate or not. You cannot do it all. Helping in a pinch is fine, but you are there to *facilitate communications*. Finally, you are not in charge. You are there to temporarily fulfill the needs of an agency whose communications system is unable to do its job.

Remember: *communicating is job #1*. While you are proud of your skills, equipment, and systems, it is important to remember that your job is to communicate. If requested to deliver a long list of needed supplies to the headquarters, you should be prepared to use any means required—including the fax machine if it is still working. The job is to get the message through, even if it means using smoke signals. □ Ham radio actually may not be the best way to accomplish the communication. Fax, phone, CB radio, an agency’s radio system—even a messenger—may be a faster way to accomplish the task. Again, remember: *communicating is job #1*. Get the message through via amateur radio or any other means.



Special Events Forecast: WWW100

by Clint Anderson, AE5CA
HOTARC Past President

As I write this I am neck deep in Field Day preparations. By the time you read this, Field Day 2018 will be behind us and I will soon be turning my attention to the Waco Wild West 100 bike ride. Per the [Waco Wild West website](#), this year's event will be held on October 20, 2018. Yes, that's over 100 days away, but PLEASE write this on your calendars, and make every effort to arrange your schedules to be able to help us with the WWW100.

This event requires the largest amount of support of any of the events that HOTARC supports. We need 12 Rest Stops manned, multiple people at Net Control, and a couple of individuals to ride in lead vehicles. The race officials rely on us to take the calls from the riders and to coordinate the response of the Support Assist Group (SAG) vehicles who provide help to bikers and rest stops needing assistance.

The top officials of the WWWCBR have said on multiple occasions that the service provided by HOTARC is indispensable to the ride and that they could not do the ride without us. Did you notice the gift the Bike Club chose to donate to HOTARC (see the Treasurer's Report)? Wow! Let's show ourselves worthy of their generosity!!



The HOTLINE is the monthly newsletter of the Heart O' Texas Amateur Radio Club (HOTARC), Inc., a nonprofit corporation, chartered by the State of Texas and principally located in Waco. It is permissible to use any of the original material contained herein, provided proper credit is given to the source.
Edited and Published by John Chamberlain AC5JC, AC5JC@arrl.Net

HOTARC 2018 Board of Directors

President: Lynn Gustafson KD5DZU
President@hotarc.org

Vice Pres: Mike Needham WB7SKK,
VicePres@hotarc.org

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Secretary@hotarc.org

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Director2@hotarc.org

Club Repeaters

145.15 MHz (input at -600 kHz, tone 123 Hz)

146.98 MHz (input at -600 kHz, D-Star)

442.875 MHz (input at +5.0 MHz, tone 123 Hz)

VE Testing

The HOTARC VEs will NOT hold a test session un July. Stay tuned for the August schedule. Test takers will need to provide **1) testing fee of \$15** (cash only); **2) a photo ID** (two for first-time licensees). Additionally, already licensed amateurs also must provide: **3) Reference copy or photocopy** of current license; and **4) photocopy** of any relevant CSCE. **Contact:** Linda Hynan, AC5QQ at 254-666-4873 or Linda.Hynan@UTSouthwestern.edu.

Meeting Notice

HOTARC will hold its *Annual Meeting of Members* at 7:00 pm on Thursday June 28 at the [W5NCD Workshop, 12772 Chapel Rd in Lorena](#). Meetings generally last about 75 minutes consisting of fellowship, general Club business, and an interesting program and discussions. Visiting hams, family members, and prospective hams are welcomed!

Field Day 2018 is history!
Come celebrate with us at the June meeting.